



FRANKFORT:

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1851.

Democratic Meeting.

By the advise of several prominent Democrats in the town and county, we are authorized to announce that there will be a Democratic meeting at the Court House, on the County Court day of February, (Monday the 19th) for the purpose of appointing delegates to the State Convention on the 15th of March next.

We hope that every Democrat in the county will be in attendance.

The Veto Message.

It will be remembered that a short time before the adjournment of the last Congress a bill making large appropriation for the improvements of rivers and harbours within our borders passed both houses. Being sent to President Pierce for his signature, he promptly refused to sign it, returning it with a short message giving in general terms his objections. He stated that there would not be sufficient time between that and the close of the session to give his objections in full, but that he would do so at the earliest possible convenience. He has kept his word, and the important document is now before Congress and the people.

We have read it carefully, and unhesitatingly pronounce it one of the ablest State papers we have ever read. Basing his principal objections upon high constitutional grounds, he carries them through all their ramifications, and proves to our minds, beyond question, that the enactment by congress of this and similar laws is an assumption of power not authorized by the Constitution.

The best evidence of the ability of this message is the fact that the leading whig papers of the Union have assaulted it with an energy and vehemence hitherto unknown in the history of such documents. Knowing it to be fully attempted an argument upon any of the grounds taken by the President, they have jumped all discussion and deal largely in irony, fanfaronade and immeasurable abuse.

The Louisville *Journal* grows particularly malignant over it, and in its issue of Tuesday a column and a half is devoted to its "cussing"—not discussing. The whole article is written in bad taste, bad humor, and with still worse logic.

The writer begins his onslaught of the President by telling us that

"Compared with the messages of Monroe and Jackson and Polk upon the same subject, the President's few sentences must admit it to be weak and common place. It embodies no fresh arguments or facts of illustrations. It does not even tell the old story in a new way, unless mere bungling may pass for novelty of method. It is, however, more compact and logical in its form than the annual message, and, although destitute of point, is upon the whole an able production. If the President does not equal others he at least surpasses himself. As the most considerable of his achievements in this line, it is entitled to a formal notice."

And winds up that part of it by saying:

"We have never considered President Pierce's mind particularly clear upon any question, but upon that of internal improvements it appears to be more hopelessly confused than visionary."

What an amazing clearness of logic there is in all this! The message is "an able production", than the annual one! The President "surpasses himself, and yet upon the question discussed in it, his mind is more hopelessly confused than upon any other!" There is a subtlety in this reasoning that drives a man irresistibly to a conclusion, but not the conclusion which the editor of the Journal is seeking to reach.

Again:

"According to the best of our generalization, however, the President's objections to the river and harbor bill appear to be two-fold. In the first place, he believes the bill to be unconstitutional, and in the second place, he believes it to be inexpedient."

So far as the President's objections relate to the question of expediency, they are themselves wholly improper and unconstitutional. In the scheme of our government, the President possesses no legislative power whatever, and he transmits his constitutional province, the moment he proceeds to inquire into the mere policy of a bill presented to him for signature. The veto power is confined by the letter of the Constitution as well as by the construction of the most eminent statesmen of the country to those cases only in which the legislative body has violated the Constitution or in which some infringement has defaced the legislative will. If the President may properly reject, a bill because, in his judgment, it is inexpedient, he is plainly a co-ordinate branch of the legislative power, and holds the legitimate action of the other branches in absolute check as they hold each other, as absolute, indeed, as the Roman Tribune held the Roman Senate."

To our minds there is no such generalization in the message. The objections are founded alone on constitutional grounds, and all of the questions of expediency discussed in it serve only to show that such and such appropriations, being inexpedient, could not have been intended by the framers of our constitution to be embraced within its powers. It is reasoning from effect to cause. A constitution must of necessity grant more implied powers than those expressly granted by the letter of the constitution, and the only way by which a rational conclusion upon a question of implied power can be arrived at, is to extend the principle in question to its farthest limits in order to discover where it will lead and where it will end. If in that event it necessarily leads to abuse and fraud, then it proves conclusively that those who made the constitution did not recognize such a principle, and it is therefore pronounced unconstitutional. So President Pierce has done in the message before us, and nothing more.

The Journal's argument that a President's objections to a bill upon a question of expediency is "improper and unconstitutional" is as futile as might be expected from the pen of an able writer engaged in a bad cause. It is exceedingly specious, and is written with such an air of seriousness that some men might be induced to think the writer was indeed in earnest. When divested, however, of its special pleading and its *ad captandum* the whole fabric of its reasoning falls to the ground like a spent skyrocket. It is not true as is stated that "the veto power is confined by the letter of the constitution as well as by the construction of the most eminent statesmen of the country to those cases only in which the legislative body has violated the constitution, or in which some inadvertence has defeated the legislative will." If there be a clause in the constitution whose strict letter confines the veto power only to such laws as are in violation of it, we have never had the mis-

fortune to read it. We have got a copy of that instrument before us, but as far as our memory serves, the only clause in it which grants or implies that power, is the one which declares that after Congress shall have passed a law it shall be presented to the President for his approval or rejection. If he approve it he shall sign it, and if he disapprove it he shall return it from whence it came. Now, if there be anything in that whose "letter" confines the veto only to violations of the constitution, we would be obliged to overestimate the friend of the Journal to point it out. To our minds, questions of expediency, hasty and inconsiderate legislation, though Constitutional, are the very questions that are most paramount for an Executive to consider, and for which the veto clause in the constitution was enacted. If it were confined alone to violations of the constitution, it would be obliged to overestimate the friend of the Journal to point it out. To our minds, questions of expediency, hasty and inconsiderate legislation, though Constitutional, are the very questions that are most paramount for an Executive to consider, and for which the veto clause in the constitution was enacted.

A portion of the democracy of Fayette assembled in the Court House in Lexington, on Monday, the 1st instant, for the purpose of appointing delegates to represent the county in the Democratic State Convention, to be held at Frankfort, on the 15th of March next. As McCutcheon was called to the Chair, and JAMES L. ALLEN, Esq., appointed Secretary.

Col. B. B. Taylor offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the following named democrats of Fayette, and others, not named, who may choose to act, be appointed delegates to represent Fayette in the Democratic State Convention at Frankfort, on the 15th day of March next, to nominate candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

Beverly A. Hicks, Capt. Willa Viley, Jerry E. Rogers, John C. Rogers, John E. Parker, Spencer C. Graves, Minor B. Hart, T. J. Adams, John Graves, Ed. Y. Sowers, Alonso Davis, W. G. Karteloff, Wm. Hays, John Clagston, George Clagston, W. S. Berkley, Solomon Low, John Almond, George McDonald, Charlton Low, John Thompson, Wm. P. Innes, John H. Hough, J. N. West, J. B. John, Wm. R. Davis, Jas. J. Nutt, Wm. N. Robb, Dr. Ben. M. Damney, L. C. Randall, T. B. Monroe, Jr., Col. Thos. G. Randall, Valentine Ritter, R. H. Hale, W. H. Hale, Wm. Ross, T. J. Gorham, N. Tapp, Butford Gorham, Gso. Gorham, The Hon. Hayes, Archibald M. McKeeon, Wm. Outten, Secy. Haggard, Jr., Jas. L. Bradley, Jacob Hostetter, Wm. H. Bradbury, Wm. C. Wren, Dr. S. H. Chew, Thos. H. Payne, A. O. Rodd, Wm. Payne, H. B. Franklin, Oliver Keene, Thos. O'Brien, C. H. C. Payne, D. H. Bowser, John Parker, Wilson S. Hunt, Thos. Bryan, F. T. McCalla, Samuel Downing, F. McLean, Dan'l. S. Sally, James Sally, Robert Todd, Jas. L. Willis, John J. Jenkins, John Davis, George Wartz, R. S. Bullock, James H. Headley, Jacob McCrory, John M. Tall, N. D. Moore, Marion Latton, Littleton S. Cewart, John Walker, John Moore, B. F. Watts, Rankin Walker, W. B. Hunt, Moses Stewart, Benjamin Hawkins, Jas. W. Berry, John Clarke, Daniel Brink, Col. B. H. Taylor, Col. C. C. Rogers, Thos. W. Bullock, John Berkley, L. E. Eagle, J. B. Payne, Jr., J. A. Grinstead, Jas. L. Allen, Col. W. B. Victor, Benj. Gove, John Hinsbrow, Thos. Bradley, C. B. Thomas, James B. W. Dyer, Jonathan Toff, R. J. Dufakis, Jesse Woorluff, Martin C. Houghland, William Roordan, E. Worsan, Dennis Mulligan, William Murphy, Oscar Watts, James Clarke, Jerry Murphy, John Norton, B. C. Woods, Mary Thwaits, Dr. J. C. Darby, Wm. W. Graves, Thos. Hinsbrow, Robert Long, Robert W. Woolley, Wm. Long, Chas. W. Woolley, Edward Long, Wm. Lloyd, Dr. John Perkin, James Seely, John G. Daly, Dr. John R. Desha, Augustus Clark, Charles Wheatley, A. B. Caldwell, Richard Loud, J. P. McGowan, G. Thomas, Dr. J. M. Moore.

Resolved, That we have seen, with pleasure, our fellow citizen, Col. C. C. Rogers, mentioned in connection with the canvass for Governor; he possesses every qualification for the distinguished post of Governor of the Commonwealth; he is an honest man, of sound practical understanding and great probity of character; a man of intelligence, a well informed politician, a lawyer of ability and distinction; and a sound national democrat. Should he receive the nomination we shall support him with energy and zeal; but should his nomination fall upon any other but our friend, we promise him also, a hearty vote.

On motion, the meeting adjourned, in order to defer the proceedings to be published in the *Statesman*.

ASA MC CONATHY, Chmn.

JAS. L. ALLEN, Secy.

SKY-LIGHT

DAGUERREAN GALLERY.

SMITH & TUTTLE.

HAVING fitted up a GALLERY on the second floor of Brooks' and C. C. Rogers' stores, would like to enter it at Frankfort and vicinity that are now prepared to take pictures in all the latest improvements in the art. They warrant their work to be of a superior order, and satisfaction always given. Pictures taken any time between the hours of 9 A. M. and 3 P. M.

A Negro Woman Wanted.

WISH to hire a good negro woman for the balance of the year. Apply to

C. R. SMITHER,

Venon, in office.

JAS. L. ALLEN, Secy.

FARM FOR SALE.

THE subscriber offers for sale his

farm on the south side of the Kentucky river, in the city of Frankfort, containing 100 acres, and containing one-half acre of land cleared and fenced and a large portion of it in grass; the other half is in wild timber. A good farm house, a small log house, tables, chairs, &c. A splendid young orchard of the best selected fruit, all bearing. Other information can be had by calling upon me on the premises, where I will take pleasure in giving information, and giving the terms and a bargain.

JAS. L. ALLEN, Secy.

PIANOS AND MELODEONS

FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PRESENTS.—At the time approaches when

those who intend purchasing, should make their selections, we wish to call attention to our large and superior assortment of Piano Fortes, grand and square, and of various sizes, and of various materials, and of various prices.

W. H. COOPER, 105 Main street, Frankfort.

TERMS.—Considering the superior character of the pianos and melodeons, we have

set our prices in the West at

W. H. COOPER, 105 Main street, Frankfort.

Two Teeth or more on Gold Plate;

Two Teeth or more on Silver Plate;

Two Teeth or more on Gold Plate;

The money refunded if the teeth do not prove satisfactory.

For the information of those living at a distance, we would state that our pianos are such, that we can make the best style, and all sizes in proportion, so that no detection need be apprehended.

W. C. DUNCAN, Dentist,

J. G. CAMERON, Dentist,

No. 135 West Sixth street, between Race and Elm streets.

NEW FALL AND WINTER DRY GOODS.

AM now receiving daily my stock of

Fall and Winter Goods, consisting of RICH FANCY STAPLE GOODS. My customers are invited to call.

W. H. BLACKWELL, 11 Main street.

Hanna's new block, Main street.

BACON.

300 lbs. bacon; 300 lbs. sugar-cured bacon;

300 pieces good Shoulder;

4,000 lbs. bacon; 4,000 lbs. bacon.

1,000 lbs. bacon; 1,000 lbs. bacon.



